

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for reviewing the present application.

Amendments to the Specification

Applicant has taken this opportunity to correct a typographical error in the specification. No new subject matter is added by way of this amendment.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 is amended for clarity and to place the claim in a better position for allowance. In particular, the claim is amended emphasizing that the PPP datagrams have at least one encapsulated data packet encapsulated thereby. Applicant believes this particular amendment clarifies that the PPP datagram includes an encapsulation of an already encapsulated data packet.

Claim 4 is amended consistent with the amendments made to claim 1.

Claims 5 and 10 are amended in a manner similar to claim 1.

No new matter is believed to have been added by way of these amendments.

Objections to the Specification

The passage: "included in a kernel of the operating system of the computer readable medium of the system" added in the amendment filed April 22, 2005 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) for introducing new matter. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection as follows.

In the April 22, 2005 amendment, Applicant advises that the above-mentioned passage was originally present in the application as filed as part of claim 7.

In establishing a disclosure, an applicant may rely not only on the description and drawings as filed, but also on the original claims if their content justifies it. Where subject matter not shown in the drawing or described in the description is claimed in the application as filed, and such original claim itself constitutes a clear disclosure of this subject matter, then the claim should be treated on its merits, and requirement made to amend the drawing and description to show this subject matter. The claim should not be attacked either by objection or

rejection because this subject matter is lacking in the drawing and description. It is the drawing and description that are defective, not the claim. (see MPEP 608.01(I))

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 7 as originally filed constitutes a clear disclosure of the subject matter added to the description, and as such it was the description that was defective, not the claim. Accordingly, Applicant has thus amended the description to include the subject matter originally disclosed in the claim, which is believed to be acceptable in view in MPEP 608.01(I).

Accordingly, Applicant believes that the above-noted subject matter should be allowed to be added to the description, and has not removed same in this response.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5 and 8-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication 2002/0184487 to Badamo et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections as follows.

Claim 1 is amended as discussed above. In part, claim 1 includes intercepting PPP datagrams that have at least one encapsulated data packet encapsulated thereby. The PPP datagrams are then decapsulated to retrieve the encapsulated packet. The encapsulated packet is then examined to determine whether to process it using the cryptographic functions, and if so, the encapsulated packet is modified to provide the cryptographic functions. The encapsulated packet is then encapsulated for transmission to a next layer of the network stack. The encapsulation of an already encapsulated data packet results in, e.g., the original IP packet being hidden or included inside the PPP datagram enabling the packet to travel through the network without revealing the final destination stored in the original IP packet header (see par. [0022] of the application as published).

Applicant believes that amended claim 1 better reflects the nature of the method claimed, namely that the PPP datagram encapsulates an already encapsulated data packet as heretofore discussed.

Badamo teaches a network gateway device with a network physical interface for receiving and transmitting data and for receiving packets for transmission and forwarding packets from received data. A packet processor includes an ingress processing security

subsystem with a decryption processor for decrypting packets, and an egress processing security subsystem for encrypting packets.

Badamo does not teach a PPP datagram encapsulating an already encapsulated data packet as required by claim 1, but rather, Badamo teaches only a single encapsulation of outgoing data, and a single decapsulation of incoming data (see paragraph [0054] of Badamo). Badamo simply does not contemplate encapsulation of an already encapsulated data packet, let alone decapsulating a datagram to retrieve an encapsulated data packet in order to examine such an encapsulated packet and process accordingly as also required by claim 1. In fact Badamo is entirely silent in that regard. Therefore, for at least that reason, Badamo cannot anticipate claim 1.

Applicant advises that claims 5 and 10 also require encapsulation of an already encapsulated data packet, and as such arguments with respect to claim 1 equally apply thereto.

Claims 2-4 and 6-9 being ultimately dependent on claims 1 and 5 respectively are also believed to distinguish over Badamo.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Badamo in view of US Patent No. 6,438,612 to Ylonen et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections as follows.

Claim 4 is ultimately dependent on claim 1, and it has been shown above that Badamo cannot anticipate claim 1. Therefore, Ylonen must not only teach what is recited in claim 4, but also what is missing from Badamo.

Although Ylonen teaches examining packet headers, Ylonen does not teach a PPP datagram that encapsulates an already encapsulated data packet as required by claim 1.

Therefore, for at least that reason, claim 4 is believed to clearly and patentably distinguish over Badamo in view of Ylonen.

Summary

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-10 submitted herewith clearly and patentably distinguish over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and as such are in condition for allowance.

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Applicant requests early reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



John R.S. Orange
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 29,725

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BLAKE, CASSELS & GRAYDON LLP
Suite 2800, P.O. Box 25
199 Bay Street, Commerce Court West
Toronto, Ontario M5L 1A9
CANADA

Tel: 416.863.3164
JRO/BSL